

# CORVALLIS GAZETTE.

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## THE CHINA PHEASANT.

An Article by 'Gene M. Simpson on the Characteristics of this Beautiful Bird.

In the last number of the Lewis and Clark Journal appeared a most interesting article on the China pheasant. We regret exceedingly that we are unable to reproduce the article entire, but we have not the space to grant, so must do the best we can and the result is the following:

Twenty years ago the late Judge Denny imported from China eighteen China Ring-Neck or Torquatus Pheasants and gave them their liberty in the Willamette Valley, some fifteen miles from Corvallis. Shortly after, state laws were enacted protecting these birds and they are today the game bird of Oregon. The grouse and native pheasant, once so plentiful in this section, are a thing of the



past, at least as far as the Willamette Valley is concerned. The latter no doubt have been driven back to "tall timber" in the foothills by the pugnacious China cock birds, who are always on the warpath against anything that wears feathers.

A few years ago the State Legislature, in recognition of Judge Denny's generous act, gave these birds the name of "Denny Pheasants," but they are most commonly known as the China pheasant. They are, beyond a doubt, the most prolific game bird in existence today. Thousands have been killed by "pot hunters" and others every year, both in and out of season; eggs and young destroyed by varmints, and in many seasons the

beyond belief. It is no uncommon thing to see them mingle with the domestic fowls around the barn yard. This is true, however, more with the male birds, who have been known to mate with Leghorn or Bantam hens, producing a hybrid that neither crows, cackles, lays eggs, or takes any apparent interest in life whatever. When a China male and the common dung-hill "cock of the walk" meet in mortal combat, as they frequently do on the country farms, the latter invariably gets worsted.

The great cartoonist, Homer Davenport, whose old home is at Silverton, Oregon, is a devoted pheasant fancier, and has a collection exceeding that of the largest zoological garden in the

Willamette valley for so long a time last summer, served the illegal hunters a double purpose. It enabled them to come nearer their game and at the same time shield them from the farmers, who are, for the most part, trying to protect the game.

As the pheasants feed principally upon insects, the farmer does not begrudge the little grain they eat, most of which would otherwise be wasted. Some claim that they will rid a garden of cutworms without doing any material damage.

It is a safe estimate to say that four-fifths of the farmers in this part of the valley, where these birds were first liberated, have at some time attempted to rear and domesticate them. Several instances have come to my notice where good-sized broods have been hatched out and allowed to run around the barn yard with a common hen for a mother, but as soon as they were of any age they would suddenly disappear to the fields. A recent article on pheasant rearing in an Eastern Journal says they cannot be reared in captivity unless fed on maggots. This is a mistake. I find that young pheasants do remarkably well on hard-boiled eggs chopped fine, and fresh ground meat, crumbled with corn meal. I keep them in tight covered runs, in a dry place with plenty of sunlight, and have this season lost fewer pheasants than young chicks, in proportion to the number hatched. Among the poultry fanciers there are those who are continually striving to create new breeds, and the wonder is that more do not take up pheasants. There is certainly no bird living more beautiful than the male pheasant in full plumage. They can be raised at about the same cost as the smaller varieties of chickens, and a financial point in their favor is that there will be no "culls." With proper care and close attention they are even harder than young chicks, and, strange to say, stand close confinement better. The writer has been a breeder of fancy poultry for several years, but owing to the great demand for China pheasants for breeding purposes, the latter will be raised exclusively. The possibilities of the pheasant industry are unlimited and may become one of the industries of this valley.

### Upset on the Mountain.

Manfred Seits, one of Alsea's merchants, was in Corvallis last week and is reported to have had quite a disastrous runaway while on his return home, last Thursday. A Mrs. Hammersley, whose home is in Alsea, was accompanying Mr. Seits.

While going down the west slope of Alsea mountain, Mr. Seits accidentally dropped one of the reins. The team started to run, and becoming unmanageable, the entire outfit, man, woman, horses, wagon and contents went pell-mell over the grade. Mrs. Hammersley was thrown between the animals, and that she should have escaped serious injury is miraculous, but she did.

Mr. Seits, too, came out of the fracas without serious damage, although the horses were scratched up a bit and the wagon was slightly damaged. A couple of young men, en route to Corvallis, chanced along at the right time to be of great assistance in righting things up and starting the victims of the runaway on their journey home. It is needless to state that there may yet be some bars of soap, yeast cakes and other necessities scattered about on Alsea mountain.

### Notice of Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, administrator of the estate of James M. Wilkinson, deceased, has filed in the County Court of Benton County, State of Oregon, her Final Account as such administratrix, and that Monday, the 5th day of June, 1905, at the hour of two o'clock P. M., has been fixed by said Court as a time for hearing of objections to said report and the settlement thereof. Dated April 21, 1905. Sarah A. Wilkinson, Administratrix of the Estate of James M. Wilkinson, deceased.

### Wool Pool.

Those wishing to pool their wool with me can do so by reporting the number of fleeces to me. I will handle your wool and sell to the highest bidder and give you what there is in it. Sacks, fleece and twine for sale by me at Kings Valley. F. J. CHAMBERS.

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### Will Interest Many.

Every person should know that good health is impossible if kidneys are deranged. Foley's Kidney Cure will cure kidney and bladder disease in every form; and will build up and strengthen these organs so they will perform their functions properly. No danger of Bright's disease nor diabetes if Foley's Kidney Cure is taken in time. Sold by Graham & Wortham.

### Cheap Sunday Rates Between Portland and Willamette Valley Points.

Low round trip rates have been placed in effect between Portland and Willamette Valley points, in either direction. Tickets will be sold.

### SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS,

and limited to return on or before the following Monday.

RATE TO OR FROM CORVALLIS, \$3.00. Call on Southern Pacific Co's Agents for particulars.

### O. C. & T. STEAMERS

Steamer Pomona, leaves Corvallis, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, for Portland and all way points. For rates, etc., call on

A. J. SHIRLEY, Agent.

Boats leave for Portland and way stations at 6 a. m.

### A Daredevil Ride

often ends in a sad accident. To heal accidental injuries use Bucklen's Arnica Salve. "A deep wound in my foot, from an accident," writes Theodore Schuele, of Columbus, O., "Caused me great pain. Physicians were helpless, but Bucklen's Arnica Salve quickly healed it." Soothes and heals burns like magic. 25c at Allen & Woodward, druggists.

## Plumbing and Heating!

Cornice, Roofing, Guttering, and all kinds of Sheet Metal Work.

### F. A. Hencye

In connection with J. H. SIMPSON'S HARDWARE STORE.

### FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE

Makes Kidneys and Bladder Right

## A Good Idea is that U C

Hollenberg & Cady for all General House Furnishing Goods, Carpets, Mattings, etc. Always something new at this store. A

## New Extension Woven Wire Spring

Is one of the latest attractions. Do you need a Bed Lounge or Couch? We have some nice ones in valour and we guarantee the quality and price. Some new patterns of Linoleum, Rugs and Art Squares, just received. Mats, Hammocks, and Camp Goods always on hand.

## Hollenberg & Cady



late rains totally destroy the early broods. The pheasant hen frequently selects the open field or meadow for a nesting place, and will often stick to the nest until run over and invariably crippled by the mower. When plowing summer fallow, nests are frequently run into, and the

world. He is the authority for the statement that Oregon now contains more China pheasants than their native country, China, regardless of the fact that fifty thousand were killed in one day last season in this state.

The destructive fires that caused the dense smoke to hang over the